**WORLD LANGUAGE**

**December 2012**

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**Weihnachtsmaerkte**

**Outdoor Christmas Markets**

Starting four weeks before Christmas, daily outdoor Christmas markets, or Weihnachtsmaerkte, are held in towns and cities throughout Germany. Here you can buy traditional holiday items and warm up with traditional German food and drink.

**La Comida de las 12 Uvas**

**Eating the 12 Grapes**

On New Year’s Eve, in various Spanish-speaking countries, it is a tradition for families and friends to gather together to celebrate the coming of the New Year. As the clock strikes twelve, each person eats twelve grapes. As each grape is eaten, a wish is made, in hopes to bring good luck and fortune of the “Año Nuevo.”

**Nenmatsu**

**The End of the Year**

Japanese people eat Toshikoshi soba  (New Year’s Eve Buckweat Noodles)  long thin noodles, hoping for the longevity of life and health of the whole family in the coming year.  They are also busy with Oosooji (Year-End Cleaning) a large-scale, year-end cleaning conducted in order to welcome in the New Year with a clean house.

December Diciembre Dezember 十二月 is…..

**Did you know?**

You can help your child learn another language, even when you do not speak that language!

Check out the suggestions below:

1. **Let your child be the teacher!** As we continue to learn different aspects in our language classes, have your child teach you what they have learned in class. The best way to learn something is to teach it to someone else!
2. Save all the papers, study guides and corrected home practice your child brings home. This will help your child (and you!) if you ever need to reference any materials and it shows your child that you are proud of their work. Find or make a folder, special drawer, etc., just for their items from World Language Class. It is also a great thing for your child to be proud of and show to relatives and friends.
3. Help your child make flashcards, label things around the house, draw special pictures and use their skills in the World Language whenever possible. It is great fun (and a good reinforcement of learning) to sing the birthday song or a holiday song at a special occasion, describe items in your house or at the grocery store, and to use special greeting words, etc, every day. Get the whole family involved and enjoy learning together!

**Menasha Joint School District**

**World Language Department Mission Statement**

The Menasha Joint School District World Language Program will provide for all students grades K-12 an exposure to and knowledge of languages and cultures other than English in order to promote global intelligence and second language competence in a rapidly changing world.